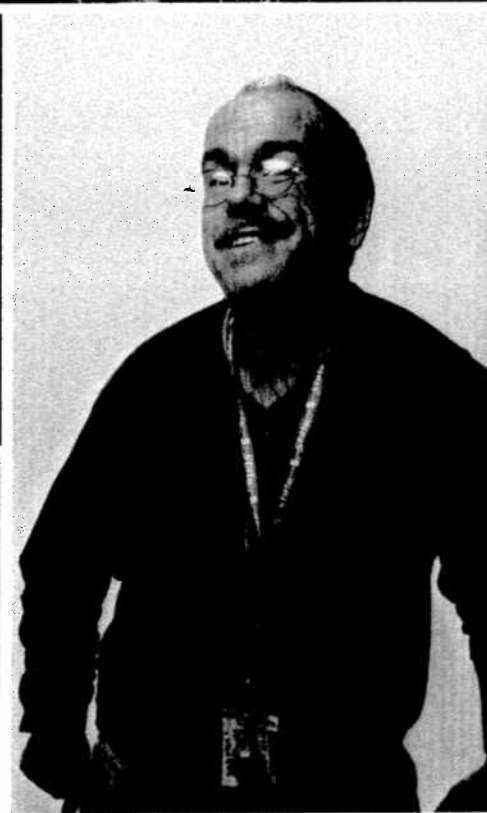




MORE
than you think



Disability Network/Michigan
2008 Annual Report

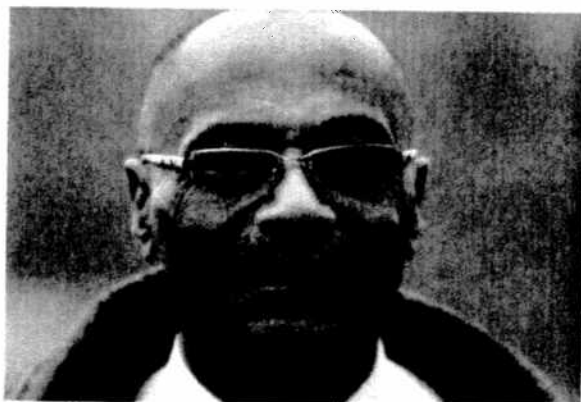


There are more people with disabilities than you might think. More kinds of disabilities. More things people with disabilities can do. And more opportunities to help. Disability Network's 15 Centers for Independent Living are changing lives, improving communities, and saving taxpayers money. When we work together, we can do more than you might think.

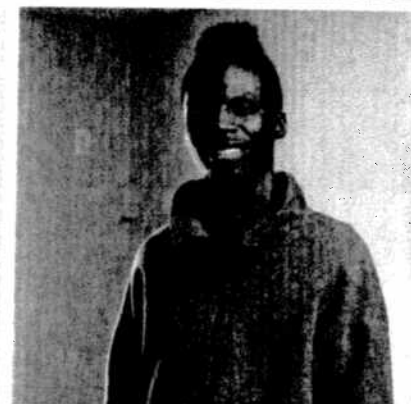





37,388 total
people served.



One in five people
in Michigan live
with a disability.





"I wanted to go home the first day I was in there. I didn't know it was an option, but Linda told me I could."

We're here to help people with disabilities do more, and nursing home transition is an excellent example. By supporting people as they move back into the housing of their choice, we're helping them make more decisions, take a more active role in their communities—and use taxpayers' money more wisely.

Imagine getting a second chance to wake up in your own bed, choose your own meals, and plan your own day. Now imagine that every day you do saves Michigan taxpayers nearly \$150.

That's the average cost for Medicare to keep one person in a nursing home for a single day. And when you consider that we've helped 134 people move out of nursing homes in 2008 alone, this service impacts more of us throughout the state than you might think.

One of these transitions revolved around Vivian, a U.P. resident with a disability who had lived in a nursing home for several months. After being referred by Single Point of Entry, the state's source of information for long term care, she met with Linda Elliot, Independent Living Advocate for Superior Alliance for Independent Living (SAIL).

While Vivian still owned her house – and a horse she loved to watch – she didn't think she would be able to live there alone. "I wanted to go home the first day I was in there," she said. "I didn't know it was an option, but Linda told me I could."

The first step in making that possible again was surveying Vivian's house for accessibility. Elliot noted that the steps going into the kitchen were difficult for Vivian to navigate with her walker. "We solved that by hiring a contractor to put up a rail and finding a second walker to keep at the top of the steps," explains Elliot. "We also installed some handrails in the restroom for safety, mounted the shower head lower so she can reach it, and paid for the septic tank to be pumped out."

Back in her own house once again, Vivian says "I felt like a princess. I just laid in my bed and thought, this is heaven." She enjoys cooking her own food and watching her beloved horse again. "He's like a member of the family," she says.

Like so many others we've helped move out of nursing homes, Vivian says, "I really missed my freedom. It's wonderful to be my own boss again. I'm free to do what I want to do or what I can do, even if it's something as simple as sewing a button on my own pants. I'm glad I'm home."



Employment is another area where our efforts to help one person may open doors for many more. Through our advocacy services, 296 people with disabilities found work this year and 195 people maintained employment, often raising the consciousness of employers who learn how valuable workers of all abilities can be.

Among these success stories was a high school graduate named Curtis, who went to Michigan Rehab Services (MRS) in Flint looking for a job. They referred him to Vonda Evans at The Disability Network, who explains, "Curtis had no prior work history, but he did have an interest in art. He enjoyed painting designs on shirts and pants and selling them to his family and friends, so MRS suggested looking for a silk screening position."

Curtis knew little about the business, so Evans arranged a facility tour with Sign Screen, a screen printing, embroidery, and sign shop in Flint. While they were visiting the business, she told the owner, Gib McCord, about Disability Network's mentoring program, which provides hands-on experience at no cost to the employer. She was delighted when he questioned the free program, asking, "Why wouldn't I pay him if he's providing a service to me?"

Evans helped Curtis with the application and followed up until they were ready to hire him. While initially unsure what to expect from an employee with disabilities, McCord says his first meeting with Curtis changed his mind. He explains, "Curtis is one of the best if not the best employees I've ever hired. He caught on to everything in six or eight weeks, which is really good. He listens well, does everything I ask, and cares about what he's doing. He does a fantastic job, and I'm very pleased to have him."

Curtis is pleased with the job so far and rates his performance as "real good." McCord adds, "I think his passion about the job has changed the attitude of other employees. He's very eager to please and do a nice job, and it's catching on with the other guys there. Down the road, we'll look to Disability Network first when it comes to hiring."

In fact, Evans says McCord has suggested training programs to help him hire more people with disabilities. "The exceptional work Curtis has done has changed attitudes and opened up new opportunities for us," she says. "It's a success story for everyone."

MORE taxpayer savings



155
maintained community
living: at least
\$5,002,883 saved

296
obtained employment
and

882
youth were provided
transition services: at
least \$3,924,524 saved



195
maintained
employment: at least
\$7,402,356 saved

267
acquired accessible
affordable housing

60
additional accessible,
affordable housing
options created

2,286
employers educated

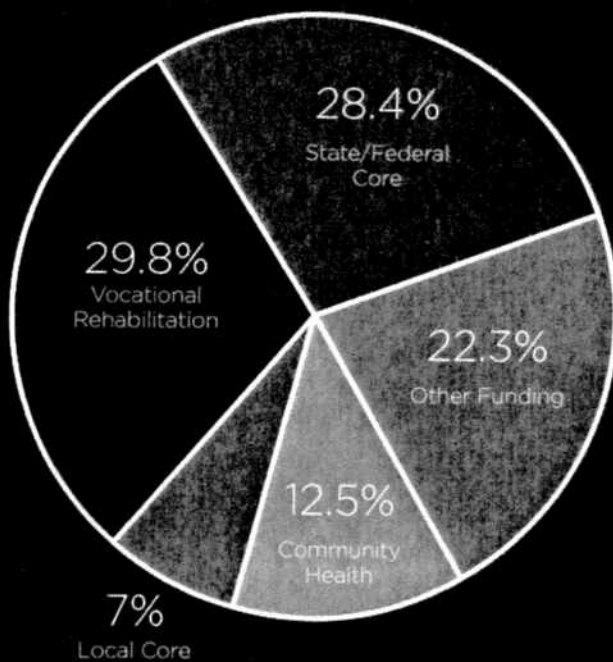
1,196
acquired access to
transportation

134
relocated from nursing
facilities to community living:
at least \$4,097,917 saved

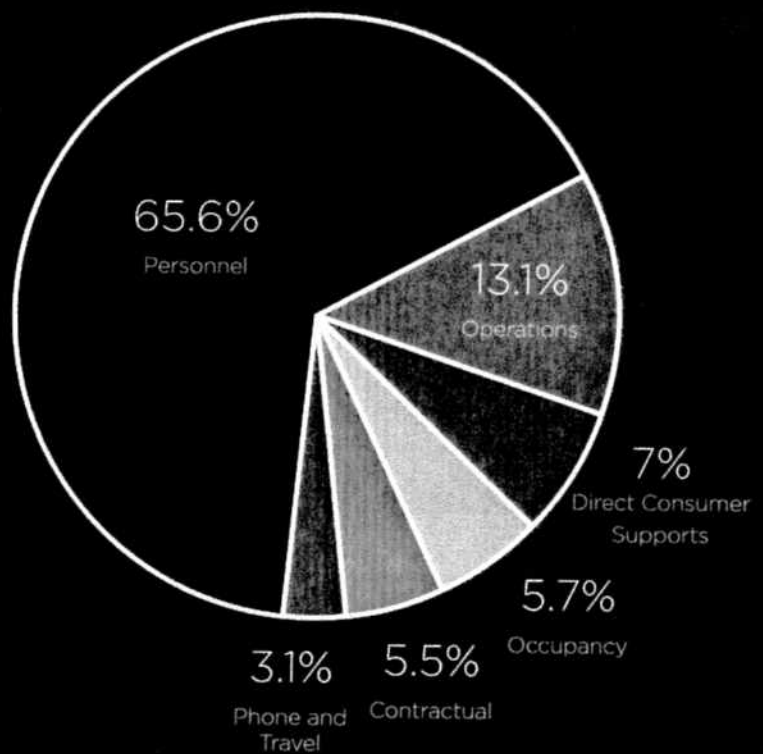
2008 Financials

2008 Revenue/Expenses: \$14,467,734

Revenue



Expenses



16% of working age people with disabilities in Michigan work full-time year round*

28.4% of working age people with disabilities in Michigan live in poverty*

*Cornell University 2007 Disability Status Report

MORE Networks.

Disability Network/Michigan
1476 Haslett Road
Haslett, MI 48840
517.339.0539
www.dnmichigan.org

Ann Arbor Center for
Independent Living
3941 Research Park Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
734.971.0277
www.aacil.org

Community Connections
133 East Napier, Suite 2
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022
269.925.6422
www.miconnect.org

Disability Network/Oakland &
Macomb
16645 15 Mile Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035
586.268.4160
www.dnorn.org

Disability Network/Wayne
County-Detroit
5555 Conner
Suite 2075
Detroit, Michigan 48213
313.923.1655
www.dnwayne.org

The Disability Network
3600 S Dort Hwy. Ste. 54
Flint, MI 48507
810.742.1800
www.disnetwork.org

Disability Advocates of Kent County
3600 Camelot Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616.949.1100
www.dakc.us

Disability Network/Lakeshore
426 Century Lane
Holland, MI 49423
616.396.5326
www.dnlakeshore.org

Disability Network/
Southwest Michigan
517 E. Crosstown Parkway,
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269.345.1516
www.dnswm.org

disAbility Connections
409 Linden Avenue
Jackson, MI 49203
517.782.6054
www.disabilityconnect.org

Capital Area Center for
Independent Living
1048 Pierpont, Suite 9-10
Lansing, Michigan 48911
517.241.0393
www.cacil.org

Superior Alliance for
Independent Living
129 W. Baraga Ave., Ste H.
Marquette, MI 49855
906.228.5744
www.upsail.com

Disability Network/Mid Michigan
1160 James Savage, Suite C
Midland, Michigan 48640
989.835.4041
www.dnmm.org

Disability Connection
1871 Peck St.
Muskegon, MI 49444
321.722.0088
www.dcilmi.org

Blue Water Center for
Independent Living
310 Water Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
810.987.9337
www.bwcil.org

Disability Network/
Northern Michigan
333 E. State Street
Traverse City, MI 49684
231.922.0903
www.disabilitynetwork-nmi.org

State Level Partners

MI Statewide
Independent Living Council
417 Seymour St. Suite 10
Lansing, MI 48933
517.371.4872
www.mislic.org

MI Rehabilitation Services
201 N Washington Sq. 4th Floor
PO Box 30010
Lansing, MI 48909
800.605.6722
www.michigan.gov/mrs

MI Commission for the Blind
201 N Washington
PO Box 30652
Lansing, MI 48909
800.292.4200
www.michigan.gov/mcb

MI Commission on
Disability Concerns
201 N Washington
PO Box 30652
Lansing, MI 48909
877.499.6232

Michigan Disability Rights Coalition
3498 E. Lake Lansing Road, Suite 100
East Lansing, MI 48823
517.333.2477
www.copower.org

US Department of Community
Health, Office of Long-Term Care
201 Townsend, 1st Floor
Lansing, MI 48913
517.373.3740
<http://www.michigan.gov/mdch>

US Department of Veterans Affairs,
Regional Office
477 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI 48226
800.827.1000
<http://www.va.gov>

DISABILITYnetwork

